

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

29 Willow Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY
Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—COMMERCIAL

—PARK

—EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—MILITARY

—OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dennis L. Mathews

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

7 Willow Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 6083

Folio #: 634

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-2159

CONDITION

—EXCELLENT
☒GOOD
—FAIR

—DETERIORATED
—RUINS
—UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

—UNALTERED
☒ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ORIGINAL SITE
—MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two story frame structure at 29 Willow Avenue exhibits several additions to the rear as well as displaying an enclosed front porch. Moreover, the entire structure has been covered with aluminum siding. These changes alter significantly the original appearance of a house that was built in the first decade of the twentieth century. The house does not appear on the 1898 Bromley Atlas but record of it is found on the 1915 edition.

The main block faces south on Willow Avenue. It rests on a stone (plastered) foundation and is capped with a gable roof. A brick chimney covered with formstone exits the roof at the intersection of the cross gable wings. The shed-roof front porch has been enclosed and all that remains is a landing on the east side, at the top of six concrete steps. The original tongue and groove boards provide a floor for the landing. Fenestration on the enclosed porch consists of six 1/1 sash windows joined together in two groups of three. The main entrance is located on the east facade of the enclosed porch. Black louvered shutters conceal the exterior door. Fenestration on the second floor of this south facade consists of three 1/1 sash windows.

Fenestration on the west facade consists of a casement window underneath the enclosed porch and two 1/1 sash windows above it. The main house shows two 1/1 sash windows on the first floor and two on the second. The (first) addition shows one square 1/1 sash window on the second floor.

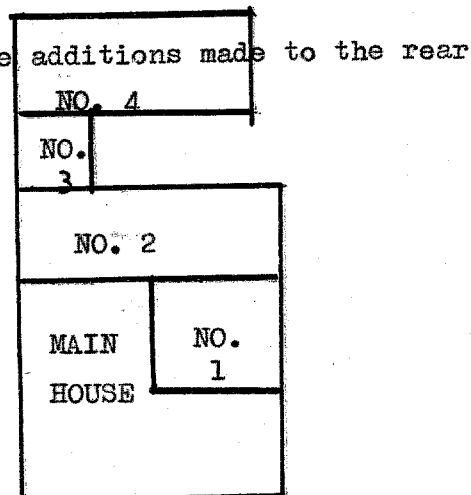
Also from the west facade you see an approximately 16 ft. ell connecting the main house with a recently constructed cinder block addition. This ell contains two doors. The one closest to the main house is a glass paneled door with three rectangular inset wood panels on the lower half. The second door is a modern wood paneled door leading to the apartment contained in the cinder block addition.

Fenestration on the east facade of the main block consists of one 1/1 sash window and one awning window on the first floor. On the second floor, there is a 1/1 sash window and an awning window.

The south facade affords a better view of the additions made to the rear of the house. The area shown on the sketch as No.1 is a probable addition made to the east side of an L-shaped house. Connected to the rear of the house is a two-story enclosed porch area, indicated with the No.2. This area contains a glass paneled door with 3 rectangular inset wood panels on the lower half. A 1/1 sash window appears to the right of the door and a 1/1 sash

(cont.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



window is on the adjacent wall. Leading into the porch is a one story ell which connects a 20th century cinder block addition to the main house. The ell is indicated as No.3 on the sketch while the cinder block addition is represented as No.4.

The one-story ell rests on a concrete foundation. It is covered with simulated tongue and groove boards and is capped with a slightly pitched gable roof.

The cinder block addition also displays simulated tongue and groove boards on the east facade. Conceivably this building once served as a garage for the main house. The oversized door openings similar to those on a garage have been enclosed with the aforementioned tongue and groove boards. Three 1/1 sash aluminum windows appear on the east side of the bldg.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES post-1898, pre-1915 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

29 Willow Avenue is significant as an example of an early 20th century building type, the L-shaped vernacular, encountered in the Willow Avenue/Linden Terrace area. In addition, the house is particularly representative of these structures in that its original appearance, like so many of the houses, has been greatly altered, with additions and the enclosing of the front porch. These structural changes were deemed necessary to accomodate a family's growth and later the conversion to apartments.

Aside from its individual architectural merits, however, 29 Willow is significant as an integral part of the surrounding residential neighborhood. In recent years, increased commercialization has threatened Towson's residential character. Many of the private residences which once typified Towson's built environment have been either demolished or altered in such a manner as to destroy their architectural and historic significance. The houses on Willow Avenue and Linden Terrace constitute one of the few relatively unchanged residential areas left in Central Towson. 29 Willow together with the other vernacular buildings on the street provide a visual representation of Towson's earlier character.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1898.
Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1915.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Janice E. Ruth/Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Historic Towson, Inc.

DATE

September, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

120 Allegheny Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

Atlas of Baltimore County. Maryland.
G.W. Bromley & Co. Philadelphia, 1915.

Scale: 300 ft. per inch

BA-2159



TOWSON

1967 Tax Map No. 70. Maryland Department of Assessments & Taxation, Tax Map Division. Baltimore, MD., 1967 (revised 1980).

SEE SUPPLEMENTAL ST

Scale: 1" to 600'

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(inaccurate representation of easternmost section of Willow Avenue)



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PHOTOGRAPHS: 29 Willow Avenue

(Original photos in Historic Towson's Files)



ABOVE: South (Main) Facade

BELOW: South-west Corner



BA-2159

PHOTOGRAPHS: 29 Willow Avenue (Original photos in Historic Towson's Files)

BELOW: North-west Corner

